

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, TH, VS

SUBJECT: RTG AND PRG STATEMENTS ON CONCLUSION OF PRG VISIT TO
BANGKOK

REF: BANGKOK 9090

1. A PRG DELEGATION CONCLUDED A THREE DAY VISIT TO THAILAND
MAY 19. FOLLOWING ARE TWO STATEMENTS, BOTH DATED MAY 19, THAT
THE RTG AND THE PRG ISSUED.

A. RTG STATEMENT

"THAI STATEMENT ON THE TALKS WITH THE DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

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1. A DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PROVIS-

IONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM, HEADED BY AMBASSADOR NGUYEN MINH PHUONG, VISITED BANGKOK BETWEEN 16-19 MAY 1975.

2. WHILE IN BANGKOK, THE SOUTH VIETNAM DELEGATION PAID A COURTESY CALL ON H.E. CHATICHAI CHOONHAVAN, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND.

3. THE SOUTH VIETNAM DELEGATION HELD OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH A DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND, HEADED BY H.E. PHAN WANNAMETHEE, UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SARANROM PALACE, BANGKOK, FROM 17-19 MAY 1975, ON A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS.

4. THE THAI SIDE REAFFIRMED ITS DESIRE TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES IRRESPECTIVE OF THOSE COUNTRIES' POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS. IT ALSO REITERATED ITS ANNOUNCED POLICY WHICH ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY AND HARMONIOUS RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND OF TOLERANCE. IT ALSO STRESSED THE DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PEACE AND THE PROMOTION OF PROSPERITY AND SECURITY OF THE REGION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THEIR PEOPLES.

5. IN THE LIGHT OF THE ABOVE POLICY OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT, THAILAND WELCOMED THE ENDING OF WAR IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM WHICH SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROSPECTS FOR REAL RECONCILIATION AND DURABLE PEACE IN INDOCHINA.

6. THE THAI SIDE REITERATED THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM.

7. IN RESPECT OF ALL THE PROPERTY OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS OF BOTH COUNTRIES, BOTH SIDES AGREED TO CONTINUE GIVING ASSISTANCE IN TAKING CARE OF THE PROPERTY OF ONE ANOTHER ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCITY.

8. THE SOUTH VIETNAM SIDE DESIRED THAT THE THAI SIDE ACCEPT
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ITS ASSERTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE AIRCRAFT, VESSELS AND PROPERTY WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO THAILAND BY OFFICIALS OF THE FORMER SAIGON REGIME. THE THAI SIDE POINTED OUT THAT:

8.1 THAILAND RECEIVED THE SOUTH VIETNAM GOVERNMENT'S CLAIM OF OWNERSHIP AT 0915 HOURS ON 5 MAY 1975, AND ON 6 MAY 1975, THE THAI CABINET DECIDED TO IMPOUND THE SAID EQUIPMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW.

8.2 THERE EXISTED ANOTHER CLAIM OF OWNERSHIP, I.E. THAT OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

8.3 SINCE THERE WERE TWO COMPETING CLAIMS, THE THAI GOVERNMENT CONSIDERED THAT IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANY POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS IN THE FUTURE, IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE CLAIMS TO BE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND JUSTICE, AND THAT THE QUESTION SHOULD THEREFORE BE GIVEN CAREFUL AND FAIR EXAMINATION. THE THAI SIDE STRESSED THAT ONCE RIGHTFUL OWNERSHIP WAS ESTABLISHED WITHOUT ANY VESTIGE OF DOUBT, THE THAI GOVERNMENT WAS READY TO RETURN IMMEDIATELY ALL EQUIPMENT.

8.4 THE THAI SIDE CONSIDERED THAT THE VISIT OF THE SOUTH VIETNAM DELEGATION PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO KNOW FORMALLY SOUTH VIETNAM'S VIEWS AND OPINIONS. THESE WERE ALL TAKEN NOTE OF SO THAT THEY MAY BE CONSIDERED BY THE THAI GOVERNMENT IN THE LIGHT OF THE EXPRESSED DESIRE OF BOTH SIDES TO HAVE AN AMICABLE RELATIONSHIP.

9. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THESE WERE PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO HOLD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BOTH ON THE QUESTION OF AIRCRAFT, VESSELS AND PROPERTY, AS WELL AS ON OTHER MATTERS, SINCE BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED THE DESIRE THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO NORMALIZE THEIR RELATIONS. (SIGNED) MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, BANGKOK, 19 MAY 1975."

B. PRG STATEMENT

"STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM ON TALKS WITH THE DELEGATION WITH THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND. MAY 19, 1975. THE DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM LED BY AMBASSADOR NGUYEN MINH PHUONG, STAYING IN THAILAND FROM 16TH TO 19TH OF MAY, 1975, HELD TALKS WITH THE DELEGATION OF THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND LED BY MR. PHAN WANNAMETHEE, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ON MATTERS OF BOTH SIDES' CONCERN. THE SOUTH VIETNAM DELEGATION'S COMING TO BANGKOK HAS SHOWED THE GOODWILL OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIETNAM WHO ALWAYS HAVE A DESIRE FOR FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THAILAND.

DURING ITS STAY IN THAILAND, THE DELEGATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO MR. CHATICHAI CHOONHAVAN, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THAILAND.

1. THE DELEGATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM, WITH THE HELP OF THE THAI FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS OFFICIALLY TAKEN OVER THE EMBASSY OF SOUTH VIET NAM IN BANGKOK TOGETHER WITH ALL ITS PROPERTY.

2. THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS HAVE BEEN FORCED TO PULL OUT FROM SOUTH VIET NAM, THE SAIGON PUPPET ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FOR GOOD, THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM HAS REALIZED ITS COMPLETE SOVEREIGNTY THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIET NAM. ALL THE PROPERTY OF SOUTH VIET NAM, AT HOME OR ABROAD, IN THE PAST BELONGED TO THE SAIGON PUPPET ADMINISTRATION NOW BELONG TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE AND COME UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT. THEREFORE, THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM HAS REAFFIRMED THAT THE TOTALITY OF THE AIRCRAFT, VESSELS AND OTHER MATERIALS BROUGHT TO THAILAND BY MEMBERS OF THE FORMER ADMINISTRATION AND ARMY ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM RESERVES FOR IT THE RIGHT TO TAKE BACK ALL THESE PROPERTIES. THE U.S. PIRATICAL ACT OF TAKING AWAY A NUMBER OF SOUTH VIET NAM AIRPLANES FROM THAILAND IS AN ILLEGAL ONE WHICH VIOLATES NOT ONLY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY. THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN THESE PROPERTIES TO THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, THEIR OWNERS.

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THE DELEGATION OF SOUTH VIET NAM HAS ASKED THAILAND TO TAKE MEASURES TO DEMAND THAT THE UNITED STATES RETURN TO SOUTH VIET NAM ALL THESE AIRCRAFT. IT HAS ALSO ASKED THE THAI GOVERNMENT TO RETURN TO SOUTH VIET NAM THE REMAINING PLANES, VESSELS AND OTHER PROPERTY IN THAILAND. MUCH TO THE REGRET OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM DELEGATION, THE THAI SIDE HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO SUCH LEGITIMATE DEMANDS OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. THIS FACT HAS NOT CREATED FAVOURABLE CONDITIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW RELATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM AND THAILAND.

3. ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM AND THAILAND, THE SOUTH VIET NAM DELEGATION WELCOMED THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S RECOGNITION OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET NAM AND THAILAND'S PROMISE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE HEALING OF WAR WOUNDS AND THE RECONSTRUCTION IN SOUTH VIET NAM. HOWEVER, THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S POSTPONEMENT OF THE RETURN TO SOUTH VIET NAM OF THE EVACUATED PROPERTIES HAS PROLONGED THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES.

THE DELEGATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH

VIET NAM HAS STATED SOUTH VIET NAM'S WILLINGNESS TO ESTABLISH
FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ALL SOUTH EAST ASIAN
RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ALL SOUTH EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES ON
THE BASIS OF FIVE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE. IT HAS
STRESSED THAT TO BUILD A PEACEFUL AND INDEPENDENT SOUTH EAST
ASIA, THE WITHDRAWAL OF US MILITARY BASES AND US TROOPS FROM THIS
REGION IS VERY URGENT AND INDISPENSABLE.

THE SOUTH VIET NAM DELEGATION SINCERELY THANKS THE THAI PEOPLE
OF ALL SOCIAL STRATA AND THE VIETNAMESE RESIDENTS IN THAILAND
FOR THE ESPECIALLY WARM FEELINGS RESERVED FOR IT."

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